

West Virginia Ordnance

EPA Region 3

West Virginia

Mason County

6 miles north of Point

Pleasant on the **2nd** Congressional District

eastern bank of the

Ohio River

EPA ID# WVD980713036

Last Update: April

2002

Other Names:

McClintic Wildlife Refuge
Station

West Virginia Ordnance
Works

Current Site Status

A cleanup decision, a Record of Decision(ROD), for a section of the site, called Operable Unit 11 (OU-11), was completed during FY 2000. The risk assessment for OU-11 determined the risk to be within the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) acceptable risk range which will result in a "No Action" ROD. Risk assessments for all currently identified OUs have been submitted for review. Also, all site investigation reports have been submitted for review.

Additionally, EPA has identified the Point Pleasant Landfill as an area of concern by EPA, and is being considered for further investigation. EPA is working with the lead agency, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the West Virginia Department of the Environment (WVDEP) to develop proposed cleanup plans/RODs for OU-10 (South Acids Area, Toluene Storage Area, and the Cooling Tower Area) and OU-12 (North and South Powerhouses). The ROD

for OU-12 should be available before the end of FY 2002. In addition, construction activity to improve and extend soil covers at the Burning Grounds and TNT Manufacturing areas will be completed in FY 2002.

Site Description

The West Virginia Ordnance National Priority List (NPL) site is located near Point Pleasant, West Virginia. It is a 8,320-acre site used by the Army from 1942 to 1945 to produce TNT (trinitrotoluene). Soils around the operation's industrial area, process facilities, and industrial wastewater disposal system were contaminated with the TNT explosive, its by-products, and asbestos. When the site was decontaminated and decommissioned in 1945, the Army deeded the industrial portion to West Virginia, stipulating that it be used for wildlife management. The State created the McClintic State Wildlife Management Area on 2,785 acres, and the area is now used for recreational purposes. Other non-industrial portions of the original parcel are owned by Mason County or by private citizens. In 1981, Red Water seepage (liquid waste produced during the TNT manufacturing process) was observed near Pond 13 on the wildlife station. EPA and State investigations revealed that the groundwater and surface water were contaminated with explosive nitroaromatics. Buried lines associated with TNT manufacturing contained some crystalline TNT.

Site Responsibility

This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL Listing History

Proposed Date: 10/30/1981

Final Date: 09/08/1983

Threats and Contaminants

Groundwater, seepage, soils, and the surface water on-site are contaminated with explosive nitroaromatic compounds including TNT, trinitrobenzene, and dinitrotoluene from former site operations as well as metals, including arsenic, lead and beryllium. Visitors to the wildlife management area may be exposed to contaminants by direct contact with or accidental ingestion of contaminated surface

water or soils. The shallow groundwater has been shown to be contaminated and is moving toward nearby private residences with wells. No nitroaromatics have been detected in any of the 13 local water supply wells, but sewer lines, pits, and open manholes may contain reactive wastes, which may pose a safety and chemical hazard to people entering the site.

Cleanup Progress

The Remedial Actions (RAs) are being implemented by the Army Corp of Engineers as the lead agency for this site. The remedies selected to address the source of contamination are: (1) in-place flaming of reactive TNT residue on soil surfaces and installation of a 2-foot soil cover over highly contaminated areas; (2) disposal of asbestos off-site; and (3) excavation of reactive sewer lines, flashing of explosives, and backfilling of trenches from which lines are removed. These site cleanup activities are now complete. After completing these cleanup activities, the Army conducted an investigation and determined that damages occurred to natural resources (wetlands) during cleanup. As a result, replacement wetlands have been constructed on a portion of the Site.

In 1991, cleanup activities began at the Red Water and Yellow Water Reservoir. Remedies include relocating Ponds 1 and 2, filling and capping the original Ponds 1 and 2, and extracting and treating the groundwater. The groundwater pump and treat system is installed and the final inspection was completed February of 1997.

The remedies originally selected to treat the Pond 13 wet well contamination has been determined to be technically impracticable. Subsequent investigations have determined that the contamination in this area is localized in discrete areas and remediation is being planned as a removal action.

A ROD for OU-11 (Sellite Manufacturing Area) was completed during FY 2000. The risk assessment for OU-11 determined the risk to be within the acceptable EPA risk range which resulted in a "No Action" ROD. Risk assessments for all currently identified OUs have been submitted for review. Also, all site investigation reports have been submitted for review. Additionally, the Point Pleasant Landfill has been identified as an area of concern by EPA, and is being

considered for further investigation. EPA is working with the lead agency and the WVDEP to develop proposed plans and RODs for OU-10 (South Acids Area, Toluene Storage Area, and the Cooling Tower Area) and OU-12 (North and South Powerhouses). The ROD for OU-12 should be completed and signed by the end of FY 2002.

Additional early actions that have been completed at the site include: removal of drums, soil, and debris from the "Toxic Swamp" area completed in 1994; removal of asbestos from the North and South Power Houses, Power Houses demolished and open pits and manholes filled completed in January of 1995; and removal of 32 drums from the OU-11 Sellite Mfg. Area in 1999. Recently, Decision Documents were completed which indicated no further investigation or remedial actions will be necessary at five sites. The Site names are Tract 21 Area, Refueling Depot, Sewage treatment plant outfall, classification yards, and the Washout Area.

Contacts

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The detailed Administrative Record can be examined at the following location:

Mason County Public Library

Sixth and Viand Streets

Point Pleasant, WV 25550